

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ORM-03 SR-02 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01

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R 191256Z JUL 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0813

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

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UNCLAS ALGIERS 1578

1. ARAFAT ARRIVED IN ALGIERS EVENING JULY 17 AND
SAW PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE NEXT DAY.

2. JULY 19 EL MOUDJAHID CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH
ARAFAT UNDER HEADLINE "ARAFAT DENIES THAT PALESTINIAN
REVOLUTION HAS HAD CONTACTS WITH WASHINGTON." IN
IT, ARAFAT DECLINED TO COMMENT ON HUSSEIN-SADAT
TALKS IN CAIRO BUT ADMITTED HE HAD RECEIVED OFFICIAL
INVITATION FROM SADAT TO VISIT CAIRO IN ORDER TO
DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPROVING PALESTINIAN-
JORDANIAN RELATIONS. IN REPLY TO QUESTION WHETHER
PLO WOULD TAKE PART IN ARAB MINI-SUMMIT WITH SYRIA,
EGYPT AND JORDAN HE SAID THAT SINCE NO PARTY HAD AS YET
SPOKEN TO HIM ABOUT THIS SUMMIT HE COULD MAKE NO
OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

3. ASKED ABOUT RECENT ISRAELI STATEMENTS REGARDING
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PALESTINIAN QUESTION, ARAFAT FIRST RECALLED THAT

PRIMIN RABIN CONTINUED TO REJECT ANY ROLE FOR PALESTINE, THEN SPOKE OF YARIV STATEMENT AND OTHERS AS PROVING THAT PALESTINIAN REVOLUTIN HAD SUCCEEDED IN IMPOSING EXISTENCE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ON ITS ENEMIES.

4. IN REPLY TO QUESTION WHETHER AMERICANS HAD HAD CONTACT WITH PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE LEADERS, ARAFAT SAID, "PERSONALLY, I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY. REMEMBER THAT I AM SPEAKING IN NAME OF PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION AND I REPEAT I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY."

5. CONFIRMING THAT HE WOULD SOON VISIT SOVIET UNION AT BREZHNEV'S INVITATION, ARAFAT SAID "THERE EXISTS AN IDENTITY OF VIEW REGARDING OBJECTIVES FIXED BY PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND POSITION OF SOVIET UNION."

6. ON SYPRUS, ARAFAT SAID PLO WAS WITH PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AND CYPRIOT PEOPLE. THEN CONCLUDING INTERVIEW HE THANKED ALGERIA FOR ITS CONTINUOUS SUPPORT AND RECALLED SAYING OF ALGERIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS TO EFFECT THAT THEY COULD NOT CONSIDER ALGERIA TRULY FREE SO LONG AS PALESTINE REMAINED UNDER OCCUPATION.

7. IN SEPARATE INTERVIEW WITH ALGERIAN PRESS SERVICE, ARAFAT COVERED SAME GROUND AND ADDED ONE QUESTION REGARDING US POSITION, "US HAS NOT CHANGED ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. AMERICA CONTINUES TO VIEW SOLUTION TO PALESTINIAN QUESTION UNREALISTICALLY. UP TO THIS TIME US HAS NOT RECOGNIZED RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE BUT HAS SPOKEN ONLY OF 'INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIANS.'" THERE IS SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BEWTEEN RIGHTS AND INTERESTS, AND THEREFORE WE BELIEVE US MUST STATE ITS POSITION FRANKLY AND CLEARLY WITH REGARD TO OUR CAUSE."SIMPSON

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